

Rotary Club of Honolulu Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2021
With Zoom

CLUB PRESIDENT RICH PROCTOR called the April 6, 2021, meeting of the Rotary Club of Honolulu to order at 12 noon. He introduced the meeting participants and welcomed all present. **LIZ HOWARD** gave an inspiration citing a survival episode of six Tongan boys who were lost at sea and survived 15 months on an uninhabited island. **PAUL SAITO** led the Pledge to the Flag and **KENT REINKER** the singing of “America the Beautiful”. **P PROCTOR** welcomed visitors, which included friends from the United Kingdom, Louisiana, San Diego, Vermont, and Kyoto. **REESE LIGGETT** sponsored and introduced new member **KATHIE COOKE**. Born, raised and educated in Hawaii, **KATHIE** began a career in Real Estate after a 40 plus career in banking. **P PROCTOR** welcomed her to the club. He proceeded with announcements of the upcoming birthdays (**LEE LABRASH** April 6 and **JACK LOCKWOOD** April 10) and club anniversaries (**LAURA HANKINS**, 2 years). Announcements included reminders about the spring training assembly on April 10 from 9 AM to noon, an emergency gardening session at the Centennial Park April 10 from 8 to 11 AM, and the District 5000 Conference on the Big Island from May 14-16. Breakout sessions, that followed, were asked to discuss how and if the sequestered pandemic time may have created new habits or situations that might change how people plan to go forward.

DONALYN DELA CRUZ introduced the meeting speaker Tammi Oyadomari-Chun. After serving in valuable and varied community positions, Ms. Chun now serves as the University of Hawaii Community College Associate Vice-President of Academic Affairs. She gave a statewide perspective of the impact on what is happening for high school graduates going on to college. She shared data done by the P-20 group comparing the numbers of high school graduates going to 2 year or 4 year colleges for the last several years. A significant downturn occurred for the 2020 graduates (55% to 50%). The decrease for graduates not economically disadvantaged was minimal, 3%. However for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders the decreases were far more significant, 21% and 17% respectively. There is considerable concern about the impact on individual lives and for the community. Her group has begun a program entitled “Next Steps to Your Future” that includes college/career counseling, a free UH summer class in math skills and career expectations, and a scholarship program. She asked club members to use their networks to tell families about this program and, if possible, to support the scholarship program. **DONALYN** added information about this program’s partnership with a UH alumni association. A substantive Q & A followed. **P RICH** thanked Tammi Chun and announced next week’s meeting and exhorted everyone to have a great week. The meeting was turned over to the “Hawaii Aloha” video and adjourned.

Nancy White, Scribe